

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 PA-04

PRS-01 SY-10 USSS-00 OC-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01 IO-14

DRC-01 SPC-03 /146 W

----- 023771

O 171845Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2377

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: ROME AIRPORT ATTACK

REF: STATE 245695

1. I HAVE TALKED WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND BEFORE I COULD EVEN EXPRESS MY REGRETS HE TOLD ME HOW DEEPLY SORRY HE WAS THAT THE PLANE INVOLVED WAS AMERICAN. HE FELT A SENSE OF LOSS OVER THE FACT THAT THERE WERE MANY AMERICANS KILLED AND INJURED. I EXPRESSED TO HIM MY SINCERE REGRET, PARTICULARLY FOR THE INNOCENT VICTIMS. WE DISCUSSED HOW THE INCIDENT MIGHT HAVE TAKEN PLACE. THERE ARE TWO OR THREE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED. THERE IS AT THIS MOMENT NO ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY HOW THE SITUATION DEVELOPED AND UNTIL SUCH A TIME AS WE ARE ABLE TO DETERMINE THE ACTUAL FACTS, IT SEEMS POINTLESS TO LODGE AN OFFICIAL PROTEST. I INDICATED TO HIM THAT WE HAD JUST LEARNED THAT THE TERRORISTS HAD DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF TWO OTHER TERRORISTS BEING HELD IN ATHENS. I TOLD HIM THAT I NEED NOT REMIND HIM OF OUR DISCUSSION JUST TWO OR THREE WEEKS AGO ABOUT THE FACT THAT I HOPE THE THREE TERRORISTS STILL HELD HERE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HELD AND THEY SHOULD NOT GIVE IN TO BLACKMAIL DEMANDS. RUMOR INDICATED THAT THE

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GOI WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BE HELPFUL. WE CAN ONLY AWAIT

THE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE HOW THE WHOLE THING HAPPENED.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, CITIZEN PROTECTION, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, DISASTER VICTIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005